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INFO RUEHOT/AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY 0118  
RUEHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY 1249  
RUEHRO/AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY 1479  
RUEHTV/AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV PRIORITY 1441  
RUEHJM/AMCONSUL JERUSALEM PRIORITY 0802  
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC PRIORITY  
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY  
RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHDC PRIORITY  
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SUBJECT: MFO TWIN OTTER CRASHES, KILLING ALL NINE ON BOARD

The Multinational Force and Observers (MFO) Cairo Representative reported that the MFO's French-operated Twin Otter aircraft crashed at approximately 10:00 a.m. local on May 6, killing all nine people (eight French and one Canadian) on board. The representative said the MFO lost contact with the plane at approximately 09:30 a.m. and believe that mechanical difficulties prompted the pilot to attempt an emergency landing on a highway approximately 40 kilometers north-west of the beach resort of Taba. According to press reports, eye-witnesses said the plane's wing hit a tanker truck when it landed on the highway, causing the plane to catch fire. An investigation is ongoing. Post has extended offers of support to MFO and the French and Canadian Embassies and is in contact with MFO Headquarters in Rome.  
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